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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kumhyr et al.

Before the Examiner:

Rampuria, Satish

Serial No.: 09/697,446-

Group Art Unit: 2124

Filed: October 26, 2000

IBM Corporation

Title: IDENTIFYING

Intellectual Property Law

NON-EXTERNALIZED TEXT STRINGS

11400 Burnet Road

THAT ARE NOT HARD-CODED

Austin, Texas 78758

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop Amendment

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of March 1, 2004 (Paper No. 3), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 1, 2004, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on May 27, 2004.

Signature

Serena Beller

(Printed name of person certifying)